



## Port Development, Internal Transport Systems and International Trade

**Start Date:** May 2005

**Projected  
End Date:** Jun 2006

**Lead Researcher(s):**

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**Problem Addressed:**

Improvements to internal transport systems (i.e. the nation's ports and waterways) can reduce the costs of serving international shippers, which in turn can lead to new trading partners and/or an increase in the volume of international trade. Currently, there is little data available analyzing the links between improvements to ports and waterways and the effect such changes will have on imports and exports.

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**Objective:**

The goal of this study is to develop a model for determining which ports shippers will choose and for estimating import and export trade volumes for U.S. ports. The study will examine the role of: costs associated with ocean travel between international ports; costs associated with port/harbor service; and costs associated with moving commodities from inland to a port and vice versa.

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**Benefits:**

This study will enable the Corps to more accurately project the impact on international trade --and the resulting economic benefits--that will flow from improvements to the nation's ports and waterways.

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**Status:**

Completed.

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**Contract Data:**

120171, A1340

**Progress:**

[Paper by Bruce Blonigen and Wesley Wilson, July 22, 2005](#) (315 KB, pdf)

[Paper by Bruce Blonigen and Wesley Wilson, May 1, 2006](#) (174 KB, pdf)

[Presentation by Bruce Blonigen, Jan 5, 2007](#) (300 KB, ppt)

**Products (Bookshelf/Toolbox):**

[Report by Bruce Blonigen and Wesley Wilson, Feb. 2006](#) (491 KB, pdf)

[Report by Bruce A. Blonigen and Wesley W. Wilson, Nov 20, 2006](#) (474 KB, pdf)

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